In the claims

1. (Withdrawn and currently amended) A method of protecting an animal from disease, said method comprising:

a. producing, in host cell, one or more disease-related recombinant viral protein or peptide from white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrome Virus (TSV)~~a disease causing viral agent,~~ and capable of blocking viral receptors needed for WSSV or TSV infection, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide ~~consists of a sequence for a white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrone Virus (TSV) protein~~ is selected from the group consisting of VP24, VP28, VP26, VP19, ~~LGBP~~ and TSVcapsid protein; and

b. delivering, as a feed or feed additive, the recombinant viral protein or peptide to an animal suspected of being infected by the disease causing viral agent, wherein the recombinant viral protein inhibits or retards binding to viral receptors of the disease causing viral agent that causes the disease in one or more cells of the animal.

2. – 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said producing in a host cell comprises transforming a host cell with a nucleic acid encoding the disease-related protein to form a transformed cell.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the host cell is chosen from bacteria, algae, yeast, fungi, insects, animals, plants, and tissue cultures of any of the above.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the host cell is an alga.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the host cell is a yeast.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the host cell is a bacterium.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the disease-related protein is a fusion protein.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Withdrawn and currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide is a truncated version of the recombinant viral protein or peptide having ~~similar~~ binding affinities for the viral receptors. ~~to the untruncated recombinant viral peptide or protein.~~

13.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A feed for an animal comprising one or more recombinant viral protein or peptide from white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrome Virus (TSV) capable of ~~reducing or inhibiting binding~~ and blocking viral receptors needed for WSSV or TSV infection ~~of a disease causing agent~~ in one or more cells of the animal, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide ~~consists of a sequence for a white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrome Virsu (TSV) protein~~ is selected from the group consisting of VP24, VP28, VP26, VP19, ~~LGBP~~ and TSV capsid protein.

18. (Currently amended) The feed of claim 17, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide is a truncated version of the recombinant viral protein or peptide having ~~similar~~ binding affinities for the viral receptors ~~to the untruncated recombinant viral peptide or protein~~.

19. (Previously presented) The feed of claim 17 further comprising host cells in whole or broken form wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide was expressed in the host cells.

20. (Previously presented) The feed of claim 19, wherein the host cells are members selected from the group consisting of bacteria, algae, yeast, and fungi.

21. (Currently amended) A feed additive for an animal comprising one or more recombinant viral protein or peptide from white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrome Virus (TSV) capable of ~~reducing or inhibiting~~ binding to and blocking viral receptors needed for WSSV or TSV infection ~~of a disease causing agent~~ in one or more cells of the animal, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide ~~consists of a sequence of a white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) or Taura Syndrome Virsu (TSV) protein~~ is selected from the group consisting of VP24, VP28, VP26, VP19, ~~LGBP~~ and TSV capsid protein.

22. (Previously presented) The feed additive of claim 21, further comprising host cells in whole or broken form wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide was expressed in the host cells.

23. (Previously presented) The feed additive of claim 21, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide is fed to an animal as purified or semi-purified protein, or encapsulated versions of these.

24. (Currently amended) The feed additive of claim 21, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide is a truncated version of the protein or peptide having ~~similar~~ binding affinities for the viral receptor. ~~to the peptide or protein.~~

25. (Previously presented) The feed additive of claim 24, further comprising host cells in whole or broken form wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide was expressed in the host cells.

26. (Previously presented) The feed additive of claim 25, wherein the host cells are members selected from the group consisting of bacteria, algae, yeast, and fungi.

27.-31 (Cancelled)

32. (Previously presented) The feed of claim 17, wherein the animal is a crustacean.

33. (Previously presented) The feed of claim 32, wherein the crustacean is shrimp.

34. (Currently amended) The feed of claim 20, wherein algae ~~is~~ are *Chlorella vulgaris*.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the feed further comprises the transformed host cells, in whole or broken form, wherein the recombinant viral protein or peptide was expressed in the transformed host cells.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the animal is a crustacean.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the crustacean is shrimp.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein algae ~~is~~ are *Chlorella vulgaris*.